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(54) Title of the Invention: A See-Through Finger-Touch Input Device

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Specifications

1. Title of the Invention: A See-Through Type Finger-Touch Input Device

2. Claims

We Claim

- (1) A see-through type finger-touch input device characterized by the fact that it is comprised of multiple light sources arranged in a series with a fixed distance between them on one side of a display device, a sequence circuit which causes these light sources to successively switch on in a pulsed manner, a condenser-lens and a semiconductor position detection device which receive a beam of light returned as reflected light corresponding to an object for which a beam of light emitted from the above-mentioned light source indicates the coordinates on the above-mentioned display device, a circuit which carries out amplification conversion of the output of the semiconductor position detection device, and a decision circuit which processes the output of the circuit which carries out amplification conversion and the information from the above-mentioned sequence circuit; and that, relative to the coordinates X, Y of the location which has been indicated on the above-mentioned display device, in order for the conversion results. of the circuit which carries out amplification conversion of the output of the above-mentioned semiconductor position detection device to become an output corresponding to the Y (or X) coordinate indicated on the display device, the above-mentioned semiconductor position detection device is located on the same side as the above-mentioned light sources and the X (or Y) coordinate is determined by the output of the above-mentioned decision circuit.
 - (2) The see-through type finger-touch input device described in Claim 1 characterized by

the fact that it is comprised of an infrared light-emitting diode as the light source and a PSD as the semiconductor position detection device.

- (3) The see-through type finger-touch input device described in Claim 1 characterized by the fact that a device with low reflectance at the wave length of the light source is installed on the side opposite to the position of the light source of the display device equipped with a light source.
- (4) The see-through type finger-touch input device described in Claim 3 characterized by the fact that the device with low reflectance at the wave length of the light source is an infrared light-absorbing plate.
- 3. Detailed Explanation of the Invention

(Field of Industrial Application)

This invention pertains to a see-through type finger-touch input device in which, without using a key board, data is inputted by touching a display screen with a finger and, in particular, uses light to detect the coordinates of the finger touch.

(Examples of Conventional Construction and Their Problems)

The majority of input-output devices for conventional computers, office equipment and information terminal equipment, etc. use keyboards and display devices. However, the occasions in which people who are not familiar with computers deal with the above-mentioned input-output devices is increasing and with this, the need for devices which are easy to use. Accordingly, seethrough type finger-touch input devices have been recently drawing attention. The following can be given as representative styles: the style using conducting film and constructed of a switch matrix; a device which detects the coordinates using a low-resistance sheet; the optical scanning style; the style in which the propagation time of a surface wave is detected; and the style in which a strain gauge is used and detection done using the force of pressing on the surface. Because this invention falls under the category of the optical scanning style, we will use this style as a conventional example.

Figure 1, Figure 2, and Figure 3 all show conventional see-through type finger touch input devices based on the optical scanning style.

Figure 1 shows a device in which the coordinates of the finger are detected using a light-emitting diode array and a light-detecting element array. 1 is a display device, 2 and 2' are light-emitting diode arrays used for X coordinate detection and Y coordinate detection, respectively, and 3 and 3' are light-detecting element arrays used for X coordinate detection and Y coordinate detection, respectively. Light-emitting diode arrays 2, 2' and light detecting element array 3, 3' respectively face the X axis and the Y axis and by scanning with only the opposite group of elements, the coordinates of finger 4 on display device 1 are detected. This device is theoretically simple, but has the drawbacks of many element boards and resolving power that is not very high.

Figure 2 shows a style which uses rapid reading light source 5 and CCD line sensor 6. Slit lens 7 is installed on the front face of CCD sensor 6 and the light receiving face of the CCD line sensor is set perpendicular to the screen diagonal of display device 1, positioned at the lower left and lower right of the screen. There is a linear rapid-reading light source at the left, right and top of the screen. In this style, it is possible to improve resolving power by increasing the number of CCD line sensor 6 elements, but the fact that rapid-reading light sources 5 are configured in a fixed position is a drawback.

Figure 3 shows a style which uses laser 8 as the light source and in which rotating mirror 9 and multiple parabolic mirror pieces 10 are arranged surrounding the tablet face. 10' is a

partially enlarged diagram of parabolic mirror pieces 10. In this style, when finger 4 is placed on the tablet surface, rotating mirror 9 is accelerated so that it rotates and because the laser light is obstructed four times, the finger is detected and the coordinates for the placement of finger 4 are obtained. This style has the drawbacks of using a moveable part, rotating mirror 9, and that it is not possible to use a curved screen because of the beam narrowing required by the use of laser 8.

(Purpose of the Invention)

This invention offers a see-through style finger-touch input device which eliminates the shortcomings in the conventional examples described above.

(Construction of the Invention)

This invention is comprised of multiple light sources arranged in a series with a fixed distance between them on one side of a display device, a sequence circuit which causes these light sources to successively switch on in a pulse-like manner, a condenser lens and a semiconductor position detection device which receive a beam of light returned as reflected light corresponding to an object for which a beam of light emitted from the above-mentioned light source indicates the coordinates on the above-mentioned display device, a circuit which carries out amplification conversion of the output of the semiconductor position detection device, and a decision circuit which processes the output of the circuit which carries out amplification conversion and the information from the above-mentioned sequence circuit; and achieves size reduction and greater economy by concentrating the light-emitting and light-receiving devices on one side of the display device.

(Explanation of a Working Example)

Figure 4 is a diagram of one working example showing the construction of the seethrough finger-touch input device of this invention. The basic construction is comprised of infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1, 11-2,, 11-n regularly lined up on one side of display device 1; infrared ray absorption board 12 arranged on the surface facing the infrared light-emitting diodes; semiconductor position detecting device 13 in which the emitted light of the above-mentioned infrared light-emitting diode receives the reflected light corresponding to finger 4 and which is comprised of, for example, a PSD (position sensitive detector) in order to detect the XY position of a finger on the above-mentioned display device 1; condenser lens 14 which is placed on the front of semiconductor position detection device 13, sequence circuit 15 which causes the above-mentioned infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1-11-n to sequentially switch on in a pulse-like manner; circuits 16, 17 and 18 which carry out amplitude conversion of the output of the above-mentioned semiconductor detection device 13, and decision circuit 19 which determines the X,Y positions of finger 4 on the above-mentioned display device 1 from the output of the above-mentioned sequence circuit 15 and circuit 18 which carries out amplitude conversion.

In Figure 4, semiconductor detection device 13 is on the same side as infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1-11-n. For example, the light resulting from the light-emission of 11-2 among the infrared light-emitting diodes which are sequentially switched on in a pulsed manner by sequence circuit 15 corresponds to finger 4 which is touching the XY coordinates on display 1 and is reflected and when it is condensed in semiconductor detection device 13 via condenser lens 14, currents 1₁, 1₂ are made to respectively flow through electrodes P₁ and P₂ of semiconductor detection device 13, at which time the output of circuit 18 resulting from circuits 16, 17 and 18 which carry out the above-mentioned amplitude conversion is produced as a value corresponding to the Y coordinate of finger 4, namely, the distance between finger 4 and

infrared light-emitting diode 11-2. The X coordinate of finger 4 is determined by the position of infrared light-emitting diode 11-2 and this position information is held by the above-mentioned sequence circuit 15. These are sent to decision circuit 19 and processed as a code expressing the location coordinates.

When finger 4 touches display device 1, the light emitted from infrared light-emitting diodes 11-1-11-n is absorbed by infrared wave absorption plate 12 on the side opposite to the infrared light-emitting diodes and because the reflected light is not returned to semiconductor position detection device 13, the alternating current component of the output of semiconducter position detection device 13 is zero. Because of this, the above-mentioned circuits 16 and 17 are set to be alternating circuit amplification circuits or circuits including alternating current amplification circuits. When the presence or absence of alternating current output is detected in the output of either 16 or 17, it is possible to determine whether finger 4 is or is not touching the screen of display device 1.

Furthermore, the above explanation describes the case of the infrared light-emitting diodes being arranged in the X axis direction on the display screen. However, it goes without saying that the same type of result is obtained even when these are arranged in the Y axis direction or in both the X axis and Y axis directions. It is also possible to line up multiple units of semiconductor detection device 13 in order to improve resolving power.

(Effects of the Invention)

As explained above, by means of this invention, using infrared light-emitting diodes as the light source and a semiconductor detection device as the light detecting device and by installing an infrared absorption board on the side facing the light source, it is possible to concentrate the light-emitting and light-receiving devices on one side of the screen, providing the advantages of making it possible to miniaturize the entire device and to reduce the number of elements, as well as to lower costs and to improve reliability by eliminating moving parts. 4. Brief Explanation of the Figures

Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3 each show a conventional see-through finger-touch input device based on the optical scanning style. Figure 1 is a device which uses a light-emitting diode array and a light-detecting element array. Figure 2 is a device which uses a light-emitting diode display and a CCD line sensor. Figure 3 is a device which uses a laser light source as well as a rotating mirror and a parabolic mirror. Figure 4 is a diagram of one working example of the construction of the device of this invention.

1 - Display Device, 2, 2' - Light-Emitting Diode Array 3, 3' - Light-Detecting Element Array, 4 - Finger, 5 - Rapid Reading Light Source, 6 - CCD Line Sensor, 7 - Slit Lens, 8 -Laser, 9 - Rotating Mirror, 10 - Parabolic Mirror, 11-1-11-n - Infrared Light-Emitting Diodes, 12 - Infrared Ray Absorption Board, 13 - Semiconductor Position Detection Device, 14 -Condenser Lens, 15 - Sequence Circuit, 16, 17, 18 - Circuit Which Carries Out Amplification Conversion of the Output of Semiconductor Position Detection Device 13, 19 - Decision Circuit.

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Figure 1

Figure 3

Figure 4

(54) SEE-THROUGH TYPE FINGER TOUCH INPUT DEVICE

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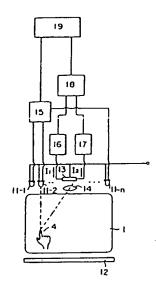
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PURPOSE: To provide light emitting devices and a photodetecting device to one side of a screen and attain size reduction by using infrared light emitting diodes as light sources, providing an infrared-light absorbing plate to the side facing the light sources, and using a semiconductor position detector as a photodetector.

CONSTITUTION: The infrared-light emitting diodes 11-1-11-n are arrayed regularly at one side of a display device 1, and the semiconductor position detector 13 composed of an image detector is provided at the same side. The infraredlight absorbing plate 12 is placed at the opposite side. A sequence circuit 15 allows the infrared light emitting diodes to emit pulse light in order. For example, a finger 4 is placed as shown in a figure, and when the infrared-light emitting diode 11-2 turns on, reflected light is converged on the semiconductor position detector 13 through a condenser lens 14, so that an amplifying circuit 18 outputs the distance between the infrared-light emitting diode 11-2 and finger 4, i.e. value corresponding to the Y coordinate through amplifying circuits 16-17. The X coordinate is determined by the position of the infrared-light emitting diode.



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審査請求 未請求 発明の数 1 (全4頁)

❷発明の名称 透視型指タッチ入力装置

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朔 血 a

1. 兔明の名称 透視製指メッチ人力接登 2. 特許損求の範囲

(1) ディスプレイ装成の一辺に一足の間隔をも って包列された役敗の允頼と、これらの尤ばそパ ~ ス的に顧改点灯させるシーケンス回路と、附記 た 願か ら発射された 先束が同記ディスプレイ 袋匠 上の極限を指示する物体に当って反射がとして及 って来る光束を受ける処光レンズ及び半旬保値資 数出鉄匠と、その半辺は豆匠校出掘匠の出りをは 佐はまする回路と、 その珍にはなけてる凹 25 の 11: 1 と同記シーケンス回路の併復を処理する初訴的な とより成り、簡記ディスプレイ及巡上に指示され 大位位の性ほ义。 Y 化对し、闹记半初体位置线:n 民国の出力を問題以及する国際の公司に決がディ スプレイ接似上に指示されたY(又ロx)世にに 对记于名出力となるよう化解记录的体促进设出安 位を消促たのと同一辺に位置させると比で、 x (又おす) 地口は高泉河町田市田力で定めること

を特位とする意识型指タッチ人刀装置。

(2) 先承を赤外発光ダイオード、半導体位置検 出套置を PSD では成したことを特定とする特許 駅の範囲 無(1) 近辺数の遊視型指ラッテ人力を置。

(3) ためが設けられたディスプレイを似のその ためが位立する辺の対向辺に、そのための波及に 対して反射軍の低い努道を設けたことを特面とす る外の指示の範囲工川所是板の造視質指ナッチ人 刀矢位。

(4) たびの成長に対して区別形の低い失政が非外段吸収はてららことを特応とする時が指来の範囲が目前を載める限な目にメッナ人の場所。

3. 允明の詳細な説明

(在是上の科州分別)

本 名 明 は エーエー 1 を 川 い ず 、 信 先 で ディスプレイ 動 面 化 駐 ル て デーク を 人 カ す る 筋 投 型 信 タッナ 人 カ 見 好 に 内 す る も の で 、 特 に え 全 利用 し て 信 ク 、 1 の 程 じ る 検 出 す る も の で も る。

(は果然のほ成とせの問題点)

就更多少点,一点,中枢概念,而他是黑诚之功

の人間力は世は、キーボード、ディスプレイを記したりにからない人がした。しかし、コンドゥークが地大のない人がした私人にはなるとなるないなっては、海岸にはされたのがとしてもる。代表のかなしておけるので、大人となって、大人となって、大人となって、大人となって、大人となって、大人とないない。ない、大人となって、大人とないない。ない、大人となって、大人とないない。ない、大人とないからの方式のは来例をとり上げるの人になった。

第1回、前2回及び前3回はいずれらた正弦方式に1ら従来の透視型信ぎった人力宏立を示すら のでもる。

 レイ、3及び3、日七れでお米市はほぼ間及び Y 供はは 前川の 九後 所 エイフレイ て あり、 兄 九 ヶ イ オードフレイ こ、 2、 九、 九後 所 エイフレイ 3、3、 と 全 × 44、 Y 他の それでれた 同い合 セ、 月向 する 一 山の 五子 だけ 所 な 走 合 さ せて ディスプレイ 突 位 1 上の 指 4 の 歴 伝 を 快 知 する もの て ちる。 この 状 世 は 妖 歴 的 に は 角 が で ちるが、 末 子 取が多く 分 所 健 が ちょ り 高く ない と い う 欠 点 が ちる。

部2 例ははほんぬると CCD シインセンサ 6 を川いたガスである。 CCD シインセンサ 6 K は 頂面 K スリットレンス 7 が 2 けられて より、 その CCD シインセンサ 6 の交 た面は ディス ブレイ 装成 1 の面面の 対 円段 と 番 近 と な と う K 足 か られ、 位 並 は 面面の 左 下 株 と む 下 株 K かかれ て い る。 面面 の 上、右、 左 K は 段 状 の 迷 校 九 姫 ら が も る。 Cの 方 犬 は、CCD ラ イ ン セ ン サ 6 の ぷ 子 及 を 増 せ ば 分 解 能 を 恐 める こと が て き る が、 速 校 た & 5 が 形 状 的 K 場 所を とる と い う 欠 点 が も る。

京3日は光鮮としてレーザー8を用い、これを 同転の9と3日の放出面目だ10をメブレット面の

四四に 世いた方式である。 たか 10° は 放 物面 優 片 10 の 都 分 体 大 図 で ちる。 こ の 方式 で は クァット 面 に 指 4 を 立 て る と 、 回 転 優 9 が 回 転 す る に で 恐 化 し で 指 4 を 立て た 歴 優 を 来 的 る も の で ら な 。 と の 方式 は 、 回 転 優 9 と い う 可 か 部 品 を 使 用 し て で な る と 、 レーザー 8 を 用 い る た め ビーム が 四 ぐ な る の で 内 面 し た 面 面 に は 使 え な い と い う 欠 点 が ち る。

(発明の目的)

本発明は上記のような従来例にかける父母を収り給いた透視型指グッチ人刀装置を提供しょうとするものである。

(記別のは成)

本発明は、ディスプレイ銀匠の一辺に一定の間隔をもって配列された環故の光放と、これらのた成をパルス的に耐な点灯させるシーケンス回路と、両足た低から発射されたた果が同紀ディスプレイの四上の飛ばを指示する物体にあって反射えとして戻ってよる光限を受ける肌スレンズ及び不可体

位置快出版性と、その半切体位置快出版性の出力を知程以降する回路と、その増に以降する回路の出力と同様が発する回路の間報を処理する判断 回路とより成り、ディスプレイ接近の一辺個に発 光、交光後性を集中して返ば全体の小型化と経済 化を図ったものである。

(災施例の説明)

出 4 図は本発明の透視型指ラッチ人の長近の伝統を示す一契節例の規略図であり、基本保証としてはディスプレイ装置1の一辺に規則的に基べられた赤外発光ダイオード11-1、11-2、………、11-n と、その赤外発光ダイオードと対向する面に低かれた赤外線吸収及 12 と、前記赤外発スダイオードの元別元が指 4 に 5 って放射したんな受け、前記ディスプレイ以殴 1 上の指の位置以下を使出するあの例をは PSD (保健監接出 石) 1 り成る半切り位は使出 放正 13 の前面に位かれた黒光レンズ 14 と、前記赤外元 スティオード 11-1 ~ 11-6 名 ディスのに配及ふ

11年60-69728(3)

快出民日 13 の出力を増に以力する目的 16. 17 及び 18 と、同紀シーケンス回的 15 と地に以力する目的 18 との出力から同紀ディスプレイ共成 1 上少指 4 の位置 X、 Yを決定する利所目的 19 から成っている。

医理論を示す問行として処理される。

なか、上記説明では赤外元光ディオードをディスプレイ面面上のX帕方向に配列させた場合を述べたが、これをY帕方向あるいはX軸、Y帕両方のに配列させても例似の効果を得ることは勿論であり、さらに分辨能を上げるみに半導体征は快出後世13を複数数並べることも可能である。

以上設明したように、本発明によれば、光原として赤外発光タイオードを、そして光級出場ととして光級出場であることにより、面面の一辺に赤外級収板を設けることにより、面面の一辺に発力、受光級収を無中してはくことが可能となり、延進全体の小型化及び累子改の減少に作うである化、可動部分の無いことによる点は気性化をはかることができるという利点を有するものでも

4. 図面の簡単な説明

第1回、第2回及び第3回はいずれらた走充方式による従来の透視型指タッチ入力装置を示すらので、第1回は発光ダイオードアレイと大侠出生子アレイを川いた装置、第2回は発光ダイオードアレイとCCDラインセンマを用いた装置、第3回はレーデた底と回転促かよび放物面でを用いた装置であり、第4回は単くなのほんなボナー火

特許出頭人 松下亚苔醛浆体式会社

化性人 虚划 恒司

